

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 126352

E.O. 11652:DECLASSIFY UPON COMPLETION OF NEGOTIATIONS

TAGS: MMOL, HO, EC

SUBJECT: FOREIGN OPERATING RIGHTS - AIRPORT QUALIFICATION
AUDIOVISUAL PROGRAM

1. USAF ADVISES THAT IT HAS A REQUIREMENT TO OBTAIN APPROV-
AL OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF HONDURAS AND ECUADOR FOR AIRFIELD
SURVEYS AND PHOTOGRAPHIC OPERATIONS TO BE CONDUCTED AT
AIRPORTS LISTED IN PARA 3 BELOW IN SUPPORT OF ITS AIRPORT
QUALIFICATION AUDIOVISUAL PROGRAM (AQAP). THE AIRFIELD
SURVEYS WILL CONSIST OF EVALUATION OF NAVIGATION AIDS,
WEATHER INFORMATION, FLIGHT PROCEDURES, STANDARD INSTRUMENT
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DEPARTURES, INSTRUMENT APPROACHES AND OTHER AREAS RELATED
TO THE SAFETY OF FLIGHT. AS A PART OF THE SURVEYS, THE TWO
MEMBER SURVEY TEAM WILL TAKE 35MM PHOTOGRAPHS ALONG THE
FLIGHT PATH OF THE PUBLISHED INSTRUMENT APPROACHES TO THE
RUNWAYS. THREE PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BE REQUIRED FOR EACH AP-
PROACH; ONE AT FIVE MILES FROM THE RUNWAY, ONE AT TWO AND
ONE-HALF MILES AND ONE OVER THE RUNWAY THRESHOLD. IN AD-

DITION, THE TEAM HOPES TO IDENTIFY ANY POTENTIAL HAZARDS TO SAFETY OF FLIGHT SUCH AS PECULIAR WEATHER PHENOMENA, LANDING ILLUSIONS, SPATIAL DISORIENTATION AND BIRD STRIKE POTENTIALS.

2. THE PURPOSE OF THE SURVEY IS TO COMPILE A 35MM SLIDE AND MAGNETIC TAPE BRIEFING FOR EACH OF THE AIRFIELDS INTO WHICH THE USAF OPERATES C-130 AIRCRAFT. THE REQUIREMENT FOR THIS BRIEFING FORMAT IS TO FAMILIARIZE PILOTS AND NAVIGATORS WITH TERRAIN AND TRAFFIC HAZARDS ASSOCIATED WITH THE VARIOUS AIRDROMES INTO WHICH THEY ARE REQUIRED TO OPERATE. FOLLOWING A C-141 AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT AT LA PAZ, BOLIVIA, THE MILITARY AIRLIFT COMMAND BEGAN INVESTIGATING METHODS OF FAMILIARIZING AIRCREWS WITH THE HAZARDS AND OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS OF CERTAIN SELECTED AIRPORTS. THE BEST METHOD DEVELOPED WAS THE USE OF QUOTE CANNED UNQUOTE SLIDE AND TAPE PRESENTATIONS. SINCE THE AIRCRAFT CRASH AT LA PAZ, OTHER AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS HAVE UNDERSCORED THE URGENCY OF THIS PROJECT. ONE OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION BOARD OF THE MOST RECENT CRASH AT SONDRESTROM, GREENLAND, WAS THAT THE PROGRAM BE ACCELERATED AND BE IN USE THROUGHOUT THE COMMAND AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE. IF THIS PROJECT CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THE PREVENTION OF AN AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT IN THE FUTURE, IT WILL BE WELL WORTH THE EFFORT AND EXPENSE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE IT.

3. SINCE AIR RESERVE UNITS WILL SOON REPLACE THE ACTIVE USAF UNITS NOW OPERATING C-130 AIRCRAFT IN THE AREA, THE

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NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU WILL CONDUCT THE SURVEYS. THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU PROPOSES TO DISPATCH A TWO MAN SURVEY TEAM COMPRISED OF AUDIO-VISUAL SERVICE PERSONNEL BY MILITARY AIRLIFT TO THE LOCATIONS LISTED BELOW. AT EACH OF THE LOCATIONS, THE TEAM WILL CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY OF THE AIRPORT. THE PHOTOGRAPHIC OPERATIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED ON THE AIRCRAFT THE TEAM ARRIVES ON. THE TEAM WOULD CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING PERSONNEL: MAJ HARRY H. CULLER - AUDIOVISUAL PRODUCER; TSGT ROBERT C. LEACH - AUDIOVISUAL PHOTOGRAPHER. BOTH ARE US CITIZENS AND WOULD HAVE PASSPORTS AND VISAS AS REQUIRED BY THE USAF FOREIGN CLEARANCE GUIDE.

COUNTRY	LOCATION
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HONDURAS	TONCONTIN INTERNATIONAL
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ECUADOR	MARISCAL SUCRE AIRPORT
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4. THE DATA OBTAINED FROM THE SURVEYS IS RELEASABLE IN TOTAL TO THE HOST GOVERNMENTS BUT WOULD NOT BE RELEASED TO OTHER COUNTRIES WITHOUT APPROVAL OF THE HOST GOVERNMENT. AIRPORT MANAGERS, WEATHER FORECASTERS, SAFETY PERSONNEL

AND OTHER HOST GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM.

5. REQUEST EMBASSIES SEEK APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE OF RESPECTIVE HOST GOVERNMENT FOR THE OPERATION DETAILED ABOVE. SPECIFIC AIRCRAFT CLEARANCE DETAILS WILL BE FORWARDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE USAF FOREIGN CLEARANCE GUIDE SHOULD APPROVAL BE GRANTED. HABIB

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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